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ENG 1001G-007-012-031: Composition and Language

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Policy Statement and Course Description
English 1001G, Composition and Language, Sections 007, 012, 031
English Technology-Integrated Classrooms (ETIC)
Coleman Hall ETIC, Rooms 3120 / 3130
and 3210 / 3140

Instructor: Debra Valentino
Office: CH 3836
Campus Phone: 581-6987
E-mail: cfdav@eiu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday
11—12:15
and by appointment

Texts:

Fulwiler and Hayakawa, The Blair Handbook, 4th ed.
LaGuardia and Guth, American Voices, Culture and Community, 5th ed.
Kennedy, et al., The Bedford Guide for College Writers, 6th ed.
Webster's Handy College Dictionary, 3rd ed.
Harnack & Kleppinger, Online!: A Reference Guide to Using Internet Sources

Electronic Writing Portfolios (EWP): As outlined in the undergraduate catalog (2002-03, p. 47) the university requires that all students submit writing samples from writing intensive courses such as this one (see the assessment website at www.eiu.edu/~assess). Please note that the deadline for submission for this course, should you select a paper from this semester, is **Thursday, November 19, 2003**. For instructions on how to submit an essay, see the attached document, "To Submit to the Electronic Writing Portfolio."

E-mail Accounts: Students must secure a university e-mail account within the first week of classes for purposes of exchanging class information.

Supplies:

- At least four 3 ½" high-density diskettes with labels.
- One double-pocketed folder -- labeled on the front, upper right-hand corner with your name, course and section number (English 1001G.your section number).
- Standard 8 ½ x 11" loose-leaf paper for in-class writing.
- 1-3 wide ruled composition notebooks (100 sheets, 9.75 x 7.5 in.) for journaling.
- One green marking pen for editing.
- One spiral bound notebook with pockets for class notes and activities.

Course Description: English 1001G is a general education course in the reading and writing of expressive, narrative, expository, critical, analytical, and persuasive essays. Attention is given to effective expression, clear structure, adequate development, the documentation of sources, and process development, including brainstorming, invention, drafting, and revision. Prerequisite: English 1000 or proficiency in basic skills as determined by the English Department, or an ACT of 15 or above.

Course Objectives: (as outlined in the English Department's "Guidelines, Objectives, and Resources")

1. To write expository and persuasive papers in which paragraphs, sentences, and words develop a central idea. These papers should reflect an understanding and a command of recursive writing processes: generating and prewriting strategies for formulating a thesis, methods for planning and drafting a paper, strategies of revising for clarity and adequate development, and means for polishing and editing. These papers should demonstrate consideration and employment of effective methods of organization. At least one paper should introduce students to methods of library, online and/or field research, entail the use of primary and secondary source materials drawn from both online and library sources, and reflect current principles of documentation.

2. To write focused, adequately developed paragraphs and sentences in standard written English that are direct, economical, free of ambiguity, structurally appropriate for the ideas expressed and suitable to the purpose of the text.
3. To develop the ability to evaluate and criticize their own and their peers' writing.
4. To develop the ability to understand and evaluate culturally diverse course materials reflecting historically, socially, and culturally relevant issues.

Reading Assignments: All outside readings must be completed by the start of the class period for which they were assigned. Since this is a course that depends heavily on student participation, students will be expected to contribute relevant and insightful questions and comments to class discussions.

Written Assignments: In addition to several written exercises, assignments and hand-outs, students will develop, revise, and edit essays both in and out of class. Several workshops will be held throughout the semester so that students may receive the benefits of peer evaluation and instructor guidance. All out-of-class essays will be due at the beginning of the class period on the date specified, unless it is a lab day and the hour is open to final editing. In-class essays will be due at the end of the class period. In the case of an excused absence, the student is responsible for arranging to make up missed work; but this must be done within a reasonable time frame, usually within a week or two of the student's return to the classroom. If the absence is unexcused (no note, no phone call, or without approval) make-ups are not allowed.

Note: All final drafts must be submitted to complete this course. Failure to submit an essay will result in a grade of N/C (No Credit) for the course.

Quizzes: Students may be quizzed on certain material several times throughout the semester. Most quizzes will be announced in advance, but sometimes just one class period ahead of time. Points from quizzes will be added and averaged, then factored into final grades, counting for up to ten percent of the course grade.

Journals / Extra Credit: Daily journaling is encouraged. Additional writing opportunities will be suggested, along with other mandatory freewriting and composition exercises. Students will be held on their honor for the completion of these writings, but notebooks may be submitted for consideration at mid-term and at finals. This will be the ONLY extra credit awarded throughout the semester.

Attendance: Regular attendance is expected. Wisely reserve time off for the inevitable illnesses that accompany life in public institutions. Keep in mind that when an absence does occur, the student is responsible for the material covered during the absence. Use the class phone list to consult classmates regarding missed material and assignments. If you have specific questions, e-mail, visit, or telephone the instructor: but please check first with several classmates for general instructions or announcements. Also, if you are ill, telephone the instructor before class to say that you will be absent, and to report Health Service visits. Because we cover so much material in the semester, more than two absences may adversely affect one's final grade. Be sure to see me in conference if you have any concerns about attendance.

Note: E-mail is not always a reliable source of communication. The server may be down, or I may not be near a terminal to retrieve your message. When it comes to attendance, use e-mail only as a supplemental means of communication. Also, do not assume that all reported absences are excused.

Homework: A reading and/or writing assignment will be given nearly every class period, and will usually be due the following class period. Our goal will be to spend a minimum of five hours working outside of class per week, as established by the Department of English. Your improvement in this course depends largely upon effort, and completed homework assignments are crucial to your success.

Make-up Work: No make-ups will be given for missed in-class exercises or quizzes, unless otherwise specified by the instructor. Remember, it is the absent student's responsibility to get all class information, including schedule/assignment modifications, from another class member (that is primarily the purpose of the class phone list.) Missed essays due to an excused absence may be made up within two weeks of the student's return to class, but only with permission and at the instructor's discretion.

Late Work: Essays are expected to be completed in a timely fashion and turned in on the due date. Late papers will be marked down one letter grade for each missed class period.

Grades: We will write and revise at least four papers for course credit. Many pages of drafting, writing, and revising will go into these four polished essays. Drafts will be expected to meet specified criteria, and the instructor will add to the criteria as the student works through the writing process. For example, you may write an essay, but then be expected to develop an argument, or further modify or subordinate sentences as we review or as you learn these specific techniques. This may seem frustrating, because you will no doubt think your essay is “finished,” but it is designed to help you manage the writing process and master various writing skills. All essays will be evaluated using the “Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU’s English Department” (attached) and averaged using the following scale:

90—100	A
80—89	B
70—79	C
60—69	D
below 59	F

Note: If a student fails to follow instructions, or writes an essay in the wrong mode (e.g., expressive vs. expository), an “N/C” (No Credit) may be given for the paper. Note also, that no “Ds” or “Fs” will be given for the final course grade. Students averaging points below 70% will receive a grade of N/C as defined by the core curriculum standards of the Department. In order to receive credit for the course, the student must submit all final drafts in a timely manner and earn a “C” or better.

Plagiarism: Students must familiarize themselves with the English Department’s statement on plagiarism. If the student has clearly plagiarized and not given appropriate credit to his/her source(s), the instructor reserves the right to award the essay in question a grade of N/C. According to the standards set by the Eastern Illinois University Department of English, the policy for plagiarism is as follows:

“Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—“The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original” (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.”

~ DO NOT JEOPARDIZE YOUR GRADE WITH AN ACT OF ACADEMIC DISHONEST! ~
IF YOU ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY INTEGRATING YOUR RESEARCH, SET UP A CONFERENCE.

Conferences: Instructor scheduled conferences will take place as needed. In addition, students are responsible for scheduling one conference per semester on their own volition. Please feel free to see me throughout the semester as questions, frustrations, and/or concerns arise.

Writing Center: The writing center is at the end of the northeast corridor on the third floor of Coleman Hall in Room 3110. Students of Comp 1001G are encouraged to take their writing concerns to this center at any time throughout the semester. This is not a proofreading or editing service, but rather, a place where confusion and uncertainty can be remedied. Also, if you are having particular problems with grammar and the mechanics of writing, this is the place (other than your handbook) to turn to for help. In addition, you may receive free tutorial help by calling 581-5929. The writing center web address is: <http://www.eiu.edu/~writing/>

Students with Disabilities: Any student who has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations should contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Note: No Final Exam will be given in English 1001G